R. L. Furniss, who collected a few specimens for identification. Mr. Furniss[4] recently advised the author that the specimens had been identified as *Dendroctonus beckeri* Thatcher, a new species recently reported from Guatemala.[5]

Since no information is available at present for this species regarding range, host, biology and associated insects, the following should be of interest:

Specimens were collected during February and March, 1954, from *Pinus rudis* at an elevation of 2600 meters in the Sierra Nevada range of mountains near the boundary between the states of Mexico and Tlaxcala. The insect excavates large, winding, and sometimes branched, egg galleries through the inner bark (Figures 4, 5 & 6). Although no larvae were found, it is believed that they mine the inner layers of bark and transform to pupae in separate cells in outer bark. In the two trees examined, *D. beckeri* was found only in a two and one half (2.5) meter section of stem from the ground line upward. It was found in association with *D. mexicanus, D. parallelocolis* Hopk. and *D. valens.*

Specimens have been deposited in the collections of the Oficina de Estudios Especiales, S.A.G. in Chapingo, Mexico and in the collection of Mr. Furniss.

---

[4]Personal correspondence with Mr. R. L. Furniss, Div. of Forest Insect Investigations, U.S.D.A., Portland, Ore.

[5]Thatcher, T. O., 1954—The Coleopterists' Bulletin VIII (1): 3-6.

News

O. L. Cartwright, United States National Museum, and Dr. Henry F. Howden, Department of Zoology and Entomology, University of Tennessee, are revising the North American species in the genus *Onthophagus* (Scarabaeidae).

Knox Walker, entomologist with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station at College Station, is completing the laboratory aspects of a life history study of the red-cross beetle, *Collops balteatus,* to determine its importance in controlling cotton insects. In brief, his findings to date may be summarized as follows:

Eggs are deposited among soil debris but always concealed, particularly in hollow grass straws and usually in groups of 15 to 30. These hatch in 6-8 days into larvae which are agile sufficiently to catch almost any close-by insect. As a rule these larvae are associated with soft-bodied insects, especially Collembola, and, in the laboratory, also fed upon any dead insect or insect larva; they dwell strictly upon the floor of the earth. On the average, 65 days, with 5 moults, are required to reach the imaginal stage, including a 15-day pupal period. After emerging from the pupa, the insects require 30-40 days to attain sexual maturity, as indicated by oviposition. Each female deposits an average of 300 eggs. There are three generations per year; hibernation occurs in all stadia but predominantly in the larval form. The adults act more as scavengers than as predators, preferring dead coccineillids to live aphids, but they will feed upon the aphids both in the laboratory and the field.—L. S. Dillon.